

#### **FOUR BEERS OF CHRISTMAS**

2 Sparrows

533 W. Diversey Parkway 773-234-2320 Leave the partridges and pear trees at home and head out for a four-course dinner with seasonal pairings from four craft breweries, including beer-braised short ribs with celery, parsnip puree and crispy leeks served with Bell's Christmas ale. 7 p.m. Friday, \$55. Phone RSVP required.



#### **GAVE BACK CHRISTMAS**

The Underground

56 W. Illinois St. 312-644-7600 Sip from straws for a cause in a winter wonderland of seasonal decor and holiday lights at Chicago philanthropist Marco Foster's benefit bash for the Brain Injury Association of Illinois. Ticket includes cocktails and a visit from The Grinch. 9-11 p.m. Friday. \$30.

#### **BAD SANTA UGLY SWEATER PARTY Timothy O'Toole's Pub**

622 N. Fairbanks Court 312-642-0700

Don a totally tacky top and compete for bar-themed prizes in a terrible apparel contest at this holiday bash where Bad Santa hosts—and poses for photos—and the drink specials include \$3 Baileys and Fireball shots and a dozen \$5 Christmas brews. 8 p.m.-4 a.m. Friday. No cover.



#### **MAHRATHON 2013**

Star Lounge Coffee Bar 2521 W. Chicago Ave. 773-384-7827

DJ Maht Wells spins a 26.2-hour music set to benefit global organization Heifer International featuring indie, jazz, soul, punk, garage rock and more-with a 7 a.m. British Invasion breakfast hour playlist to coincide with the arrival of warm Do-Rite doughnuts. Donate \$20 and get a cup of Dark Matter coffee; a \$25 donation gets you coffee and a doughnut. 5:45 p.m. Saturday-8 p.m. Sunday.

#### **NIGHTCAPS**

**Berlin** 

954 W. Belmont Ave. 773-348-4975

Freewill donations accepted.

JC Brooks of throwback soul band JC Brooks and The Uptown Sound headlines this variety show benefit and silent auction for The Night Ministry's queer homeless youth shelter, The Crib. Comedian Cody Melcher hosts. 10 p.m. Friday. \$5.



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REDEYE TIP OF THE DAY

2 Chainz performs Feb. 7 at the Chicago Theatre. Tickets go on sale at noon Friday: ticketmaster.com.

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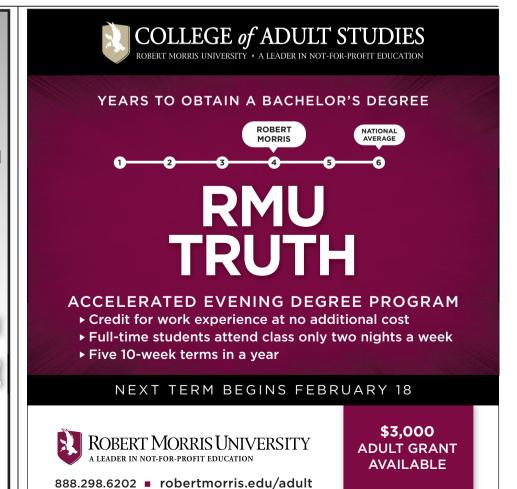
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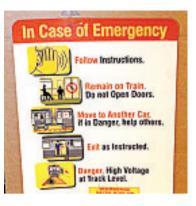
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## CTAGRAB Old transit items— from token counters to a train car—are up for auction

















**WARNING** 

By Mick Swasko | REDEYE

Want to buy a CTA train car?

It's possible, thanks to an online auction that went live today featuring memorabilia and equipment from the Chicago Transit Authority.

Rick Levin, president of auction house Levin and Associates, said this is the first time the CTA has auctioned off memorabilia to the public. Items in the auction include vintage signage, token counters and even an entire 2200 series rail car.

"You can be the first kid on your block not to just have a toy train set, but a full-size train," Levin said.

The auction began Thursday and ends Dec. 18. Items will be available for pick up Dec. 19 and 20, and the CTA has a final say on what bids are accepted and which are not. All items have a starting bid of \$0.

"It's not really done to be a revenue maker," CTA spokesperson Lambrini Lukidis said. "We don't know what we're going to get out of this."

In the case of the rail car, Lukidis said, the agency would seek at least a \$4,000 bid, the amount a car would go for if it were sold for scrap. Many of the items in the auction are 40 to 60 years old, she said, and the effort is a way for the agency to test the market for CTA memorabilia among collectors and rail fanatics.

MSWASKO@TRIBUNE.COM | @SWASKO



## Diamonds are stupid forever



Tis the season when my Pinterest board fills up with ridiculously overpriced glittery white dresses, "rural" chic reception decor and, of course, obnoxiously oversized diamond engagement rings. It's engagement season in a digital age; here, you don't have to subtly hint to your boyfriend that it's time

to tie the knot, you can just direct him to your "wedding bling" page. Ah, #romance.

Part of me gets it. Wedding culture, from Cinderella to Bridezilla, has indoctrinated generations of ladies. I get that they believe their happily ever after begins and ends entirely on their wedding day. I get that they would want a big gigantic ring to commemorate that (at least until the credit card bill comes in). I get that diamonds are shiny and pretty.

But guys, let's be real. Diamonds are silly. In my humble—although admittedly not engaged-opinion, they are not worth it. Let me try to persuade you with a few reasons you should get married sans diamond.

1) Diamonds weren't always "necessary" for an engagement. For hundreds of years, the engagement ring was just a simple gold or iron band. Then some archduke in the 1400s made a diamond ring for his bride (I should note he died in a mountain of debt after living beyond his means). Then, for centuries, diamonds were only for the uber-wealthy-that is, until diamonds were discovered in Africa. De Beers quickly bought up the mines, exploited miners and then convinced the American public that engagement rings needed diamonds through its "a diamond is forever" campaign. Not exactly a romantic story, unless you're Ayn Rand.

2) I dare you to watch "Blood Diamond" with Leonardo DiCaprio and feel nothing.

3) Diamonds are really effin' expensive! Most of the rings I've seen my friends pinning cost four to five thousand dollars. That is more than my car. And my little Geo does useful things, like drive me to the grocery store so I don't have to ride the bus carrying sad bags stuffed with Lean Cuisines and PBR. Why would you waste \$5,000 on something meant to just look pretty?

4) Most diamond settings look tacky, gaudy and oh-so-boring. You can get cheaper, prettier stuff from local Chicago jewelers. Just check out Etsy!

5) And finally, I'm going to get a little judge-y here: It feels like some people get diamond rings to impress other people, not to symbolize their love. Lord knows I'm all for consumerism, but marrying someone should be the one thing you don't do to impress others; you should do it to make your life eternally better because you now have a partner to share it with. I know, sappy. But really, if you start your marriage trying to keep up with the Joneses, then that is all you will ever do.

Look, I know some people just love how diamonds look and think they are totally worth the money. To them I say mazel tov! To those who are doing the whole diamond thing because they think it is what they "should" do or because it's what has always been done, I say gold bands work just as well, and \$5,000 can buy you a pretty sweet honeymoon. Or a gently used but reliable Geo Prism.

MIKI FRITZ IS A REDEVE SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR.

If you start your marriage trying to keep up with the Joneses, then that is all you will ever do.





## Hey, yo, send me an Instagram Direct



Instagram unveiled a new feature Thursday that allows users to send images and messages privately, as the Facebook-owned company sought to bolster its appeal among younger consumers who are increasingly using mobile messaging applications.

The new Instagram Direct feature allows users to send a photo or video to a single person or up to 15 people, and to have real-time text conversations.

"Sometimes you want to be able to share, not with everyone, but just with a specific group," said Kevin Systrom, Instagram co-founder and chief executive during a presentation in New York. "Instagram Direct is a simple way to send photos and videos to your friends."

Instagram claims to have more than 150 million monthly users who have shared 16 billion photos on the service. Until now, the photos could only be shared publicly, allowing them to be seen by anyone using the service.

Facebook, the world's No. 1 social network, bought Instagram for \$1 billion in 2012.

The new features come as Facebook and Instagram face increasing competition from a new crop of mobile messaging services, including WhatsApp and Snapchat.

In October, Facebook said it was seeing a decline in daily use by younger teenagers in the United States, although it said overall use by teenagers was stable.













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The cereal component

of the crawl has a complex

origin story, but organizers

currently explain it as a way

for people to do "shots" of

something at each bar

without emphasizing

excessive drinking.

#### By Tracy Swartz | REDEYE

Christmas comes early every year for Bridgid Defranceschi of Lakeview. On Saturday morning, she'll do as she always does—wake up energized after a long night's sleep, prepare eggs and toast for her friends and fam-

ily and don her best Christmas outfit—to go boozing for 12 hours.

For the past five years, Defranceschi has partied in a thousands-strong, daylong 12 Bars of Christmas (TBOX) pub crawl in Wrigleyville that features costumes, stickers and enough cereal to make Grape Nuts\* lovers, uh, go nuts.

In past years, she has encountered a man wearing a wooden sleigh with lady reindeer and formed longtime friendships in bar bathroom lines. This year, she will strap on aviator goggles and with a handful of her friends will day drink as aviation pioneer and femi-

nist icon Amelia Earhart to coincide with TBOX's airline theme.

"I've kind of made it a tradition. That's like my Christmas with my friends," said Defranceschi, 28. "It gets kind of crazy."

TBOX, which began in 1996 as a small bar crawl between friends, is expected to attract about 23,000 participants, many in costumes, this year. The goal

of the day, which begins at 8 a.m., is to hit 12 of the 50-plus Wrigleyville-area bars.

But before you grab your jingle bells and hit the streets Saturday, know that this year's TBOX comes with a

twist—one that incorporates 122 security officers, 230 barricades, 50 porta-potties, and two cleanup shifts of 10 people.

TBOX officials are hoping they go from the naughty list to the nice list after a 23-year-old man was arrested and charged with aggravated battery causing great

bodily harm for allegedly stabbing a man with a broken beer bottle last year in the bathroom of Red Ivy, a TBOX stop, after the

event was officially over.

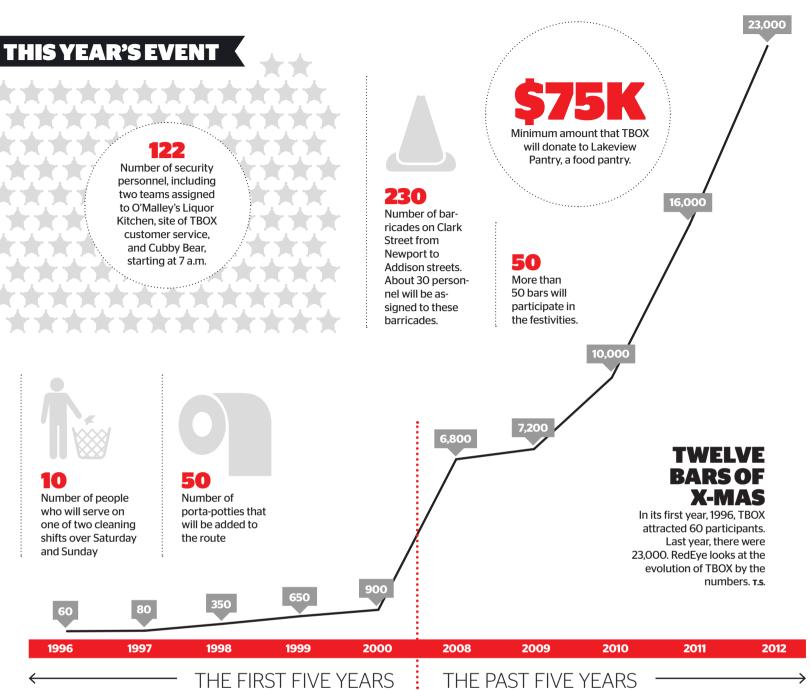
At least one business reported to the media that it sustained a broken window from a fight that involved guys wearing TBOX gear.

In the months after last year's crawl, TBOX established an advisory committee of bars and business groups, devised an emergency plan and received a special event permit normally reserved for festivals, not bar crawls.

But this is no ordinary crawl. About 23,000 revelers were present last year, and TBOX officials hope their newly enacted measures will keep the 17-year-old tradition alive.

The cost of the additional security, bathrooms, Dumpsters and aid stations won't be known until after the event, but "it's a significant investment," said TBOX spokeswoman Lissa Druss Christman of Serafin & Associates, a public relations firm retained this fall





by event creator Chris Festa. "Chris just really wanted to improve [TBOX]."

On the stabbing incident—still in the court system—that inspired the changes, Christman said, "It was an anomaly, and it was unfortunate it happened."

It's not Santa who will be checking on TBOX this year, but Wrigleyville business owners and residents, some of whom have complained about the public intoxication and urination and unwieldy crowds that have earned TBOX a spot with St. Patrick's Day and Blackhawks Stanley Cup celebrations as top Chicago party days.

Still, Lakeview officials say they are encouraged by the TBOX changes this year.

"We're really pleased about the enhancements and improvements," said Erin Duffy, director of community outreach for Ald. Tom Tunney (44th), whose ward is TBOX central. "We think it's going to be a great event and work well with the community."

Despite these adjustments, Joshua Collins won't be back to TBOX this year.

Opening

ceremonies begin

at the Cubby Bear

Collins moved from Washington to Chicago last summer and heard from friends that TBOX is a jolly day. So the Lakeview resident slipped on a Santa hat and festive T-shirt and prepared for joy.

Instead, he said, he spent seven hours standing in lines and fighting crowds and watching fights break out.

TBOX recommends that event virgins like Collins wear a sticker that tells other festgoers to "treat you gently and help

you along if you're confused." That didn't happen for Collins.

"The actual experience was more of like going to a concert, but without the redeem-

ing music you go for," said Collins, 30. "When you got into a bar, there was really no place to go. It was like being on a packed 'L' car. You're shoved up against people, and it's really not that fun.

"I did what I was supposed to do. I wore the cheesy buttons and all that stuff. Didn't really help the experience."

Heather Way Kitzes, executive director of the Lakeview Chamber of Commerce, said lack of crowd control appeared to be the No. 1 issue last year.

Way Kitzes, one of 11 members of the TBOX advisory committee, said it seemed party crashers also were a problem last year. TBOXers are required to have tickets, which cost \$45, and bars cannot let anyone but partygoers with wristbands in during designated hours.

Way Kitzes said TBOX helps bring foot traffic to the Clark Street area at a time when business can be slow. A '90s TBOXer, she is optimistic for this year's event.

"Those enhancements will play a big part in the success of TBOX," Way Kitzes said. "I think if it goes horribly wrong this year, I think it will be heavily evaluated going forward."

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Midway was last among the country's biggest airports at getting passengers in the air on time through the first 10 months of the year.

## M-RAHM IS FASTING

#### Mayor joins a number of Democrats in sacrifice for immigration reform

#### Chicago Tribune

Mayor Emanuel on Thursday joined a cause celebre among Democratic politicians, saying he would fast for 24 hours in a show of support for federal immigration reform that could help his standing among Latino voters locally but isn't likely to do much to end the congressional standoff on the politically charged issue.

Emanuel, who started his fast at a Mass in honor of the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe at St. Pius V Church in Pilsen, said his action is part of a broader push to make Congress understand immigration reform is something Americans want.

"For us it is essential to remind the United States Congress that there is support for immigration reform throughout the country," he said during remarks before he laid roses in front of the statue of Our Lady of Guadalupe in the church. "And we are going to fast and share in that effort in solidarity, as the father said, with those in Washington."

Alds. Daniel Solis (25th), Rey Colon (35th) and Lona Lane (18th) were on hand at the Mass and said they too would fast.

"I will say, so you know, that in the Jewish faith we fast on our holiest of holy days, Yom Kippur, for 24 hours," said Emanuel, who promised to go without food from 7 p.m. Thursday to 7 p.m. Friday. "It is a way of



marking, and clearing ourselves and bringing us closer to God, and reminding ourselves not just of our sins, but of the justice we have to bring in the coming year. And I cannot think of anything that's more appropriate, in the sense of the justice we must bring, than to finally bring immigration reform."

The mayor is one of several Democrats who have pledged to fast for a day to demonstrate their solidarity with backers of immigration reform who have been taking turns fasting in the National Mall in Washington since last month to try to get Congress to approve an immigration bill.

Sen. Dick Durbin announced he would fast from Thursday to Friday. Earlier this week, Democratic Rep. Tammy Duckworth of Hoffman Estates said she would fast for a day, and Democratic Rep. Jan Schakowsky of Evanston said she did so last month.

#### WHAT WILL HAPPEN?

The House is done voting for the year after approving a budget deal Thursday, which means congressmen won't vote on a bipartisan immigration bill the Senate approved over the summer. Republicans who control the House are divided over whether to provide a path to citizenship for immigrants who are in the U.S. without legal status.

#### What's that?!

Why, it's the new holiday Divvy bike, unveiled Thursday, and it's wrapped like a candy cane. Snap a pic and upload it to Instagram, Twitter or Facebook using the hashtag #holidlvvy. Divvy will pick its favorite photo. and winners will get a Divvy beanie cap or annual membership. The candy cane bike will be around the city through New Year's Day, LEONOR VIVANCO, REDEVE



#### EXPRESS LINES

- » A 25-year-old mother has been charged after her 7-month-old daughter was found dead in a car seat on top of a bunk bed in her Lawndale apartment, police said.
- » Chief Keef's lawyers told a Cook County judge Thursday that the rapper is making good progress at a pricey drug rehabilitation center in California.
- » Mayor Emanuel on Thursday joined the chair of JPMorgan Chase as the firm announced a five-year. \$250 million effort to close the "skills gap" to curb unemployment in urban areas in the U.S. and Europe. TRIBUNE





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Protesters rally in Independence Square in Kiev last week after President Viktor Yanukovych discussed a new agreement with Russia's Vladimir Putin rejecting an EU deal. GETTY IMAGES

## **Putin steps into** Ukraine fight

KIEV, Ukraine As thousands of pro-Europeanintegration protesters in Kiev's Independence Square were rebuilding barricades that were destroyed the previous day by police, Russian President Vladimir Putin maintained a focus Thursday on Ukraine.

Putin, in his annual state of the union address, said Ukraine's leaders are continuing to consult with Moscow about about post-Soviet economic reintegration.

"Even before all these [protests] which we now see in Kiev ... Ukraine more than once declared its interest in joining some agreements of the customs union [with Russia, Belarus and Kazakhstan]," Putin said in his televised speech. "We are not imposing anything on anybody. If our friends have a desire for joint work we are ready to continue this work."

Putin said that he expected Kyrgyzstan and

Armenia to join the organization soon. "I am sure that real achievements of Eurasian integration will only enhance interest on the part of our other neighbors, including our Ukrainian partners too," Putin added.

Putin's comments made clear his continued designs on Ukraine and that "by hook or by crook" he will seek to try and drag it into the so-called Eurasian Union, his long-cherished idea "of reincarnating some semblance of the Soviet Union," said Boris Tarasyuk, Ukraine's ex-foreign minister.

"As long as Ukraine is suspended in limbo after [President Viktor] Yanukovich failed to sign [an] association agreement with the European Union, Putin will continue to apply pressure on Ukraine to get it back into Russia's orbit," Tarasyuk said in an interview with The Times.

#### Signer claims he heard voices on-stage

A South African sign language interpreter accused of miming nonsense as world leaders paid tribute to Nelson Mandela defended himself as a "champion" signer on Thursday, but said he suffered a schizophrenic episode during the event. The interpreter said he started hearing voices and hallucinating while on stage, resulting in gestures that made no sense to outraged deaf people around the world.

#### D.C. aide arraigned on child porn charge

Sen. Lamar Alexander's exchief of staff was arraigned Thursday on federal child pornography charges, a day after being arrested and quickly fired by the Republican from Tennessee, Jesse Loskam, 35, was ordered held in custody pending a preliminary hearing. He was arrested on Wednesday by U.S. Postal Inspection Service agents on suspicion of possessing and attempting to distribute child pomography.

#### House passes compromise budget

The Republican-controlled U.S. House of Representatives on Thursday passed a twoyear, bipartisan budget plan that would end some automatic spending cuts on federal agencies and replace them with more targeted government savings. The measure also aims to end the partisan fighting between Republicans and Democrats over fiscal affairs, which led to last October's 16-day partial government shutdown.





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Bears star loves playing himself-especially when his shoulder's healthy

By Matt Lindner | FORREDEVE

Lance Briggs is one of the few people on the planet who can play as himself in a video game.

And yes, he says it's as cool as you think it is.

"It's great to see yourself make a play on the field and in a video game," he said. "I always took a lot of pride in when I played baseball or when I played basketball and stuff like that, creating different players and different teams and stuff. When I got a chance to see myself in football, I think it's pretty

Briggs mingled with fans at the Best Buy on North Avenue on Tuesday prior to the Ultimate Gamers Showdown, a "Madden NFL 25" tournament that matched up fans against each other for a chance to win prizes.

But while he dominates on an actual field, those skills don't translate to the virtual gridiron.

"I realized that it was my time to give up on 'Madden' because my teammates are too good and I was getting blown out," he said. "I thought I was good at 'FIFA.' I went to training camp and got

from the field, the hard-hitting linebacker prefers to spend what limited free time he has playing adventure games instead of sports games.

"I really get tied into the story," he said. "It's somebody's imagination; somebody created a world. I like to follow that storyline and complete it."

Historically, defense has been the story of the Bears' success. This season, the storylines being written by teammates on the other side of the ball

have kept fans talking.

Former high school gym teacher turned Bears season savior Josh McCown has emerged as an unlikely star behind center since Jay Cutler went down with injuries halfway through the season.

> In Cutler's absence. McCown has thrown for 13 touchdowns and just one interception, helping keep the Bears locked in a first-place tie in the NFC North with Detroit with just three games to go.

It's not something that's lost on the leader of the team's defense.

"[McCown has] been vital to our opportunity to have success," Briggs said. "Josh and his ability to play and minimize mistakes has kept us in games."

In the latest turn, the Bears announced Thursday that Cutler will start Sunday against Cleveland.

Ask Briggs about his own story, though, and you're not going to get much of a response.

His fractured left shoulder may be the most talked-about body part in Chicago right now by everyone but the man it's attached to.

"Shoulder's getting better," was all

Briggs said it hasn't been easy watching the organized chaos on the field instead of orchestrating it.

"It's always strange to be on the sidelines when your team is out there," he

With three games left and a playoff berth on the line, Briggs said the team is treating each game like it's do or die.

"Every week is like a playoff for us," he said. "We just have to win out."

MATT LINDNER IS A REDEVE SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR.

Just because you can control yourself in a video game doesn't mean you want to all the time. Away

'IT'S GOOD TO BE BACK'

For the time being, all the Jay Cutler vs. Josh McCown noise takes a backseat. Cutler has been medically cleared to play and will start for the Bears on Sunday at Cleveland.

coach Marc Trestman said Thursday. Cutler will start ahead of backup Josh McCown, who was named NFC Offensive Player of the Week for his performance in Monday's 45-28 win

over the Cowbovs.

"It is good to be back," Cutler said. "A month out is a long time to be

Lance Briggs

BRIAN CASSELLA/TRIBUNE FILE

Cutler, who participated fully in

first-team reps, has missed the last four games because of a high left ankle sprain he suffered Nov. 10. TRIBUNE

practice Thursday and took all the

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#### SWITCH!

Jay Cutler has his starting spot back. Which means we can work on getting Josh McCown for Five on Five!



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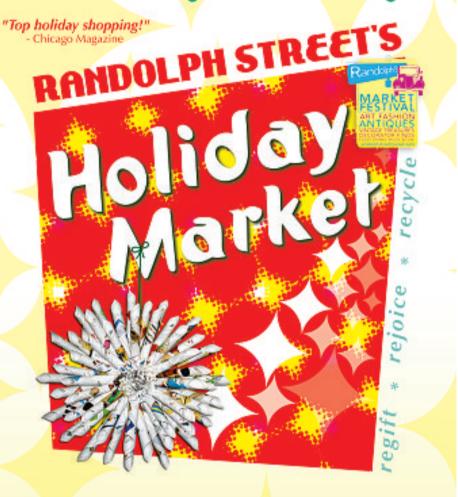
We picked the liest answers from our Twitter and Facebook, it's that simple. What are you waiting for?

inn	sammes american properties and the second	man di manana	mannaman manan	research re	ekeeensekeennessekennessekenne.	and a superior of the superior
ł	Jay Cutler will start against Cleveland on Sunday, so	he'd better not lose. He'd bet- ter not even look like he could lose, or this becomes McCown Town.	the Bears will be, at this mo- ment, starting their second- best QB.	he'd better be 100 percent healthy.	I'll probably watch anyway.	Danielle Basso: we better start thinking of a drinking game. Two shots every time he throws to the Browns.
2	If Josh McCown has made his last start for the Bears	he'll forever have my grati- tude for dismantling Dallas. #Cryboys #RomoFOMO #JerryJonesishisownwaxfigure	I'm fine with that, as long as Cutler doesn't get a long-term deal.	then I hope he gets overpaid by some horrible AFC team. I like him.	I can honestly say I can tell him apart from Cade McNown.	David K. Rimkus: they should retire his number.
3	Who said this: "I'm going to be a scrappy, dirtbag guy"?	Dirt? Check. Bag? Check. Scrappy? Eh, I'll give it to you, Bag Boy.	Every player who had more guts than talent.	In an upset that nobody saw coming, Julie DiCaro.	The White Sox's new dirtbag— haven't had one since A.L	@MikeyEsq Alderman Tom Tunney.
4	Why is baseball's offseason called the Hot Stove League?	Dumb deals like the Robinson Cano contract make you want to stick your head in an oven.	It's a play on what the acronym HSL really means: "Holy [Bleep], Look!"	Because it's so boring, you wan- na stick your head in an oven.	it's because all the rumors fly- ing around—I have no idea.	Drew Granger: Because every time the Cubs do ANYTHING during it, they get burned.
5	When will the Cubs finally be- gin Wrigley Field renovations?	As soon as they rubber-stamp my idea for a postgame dunk tank.	I'm so sick of this topic I'd rather talk about the weather.	In the year 2525, if man is still alive.	When will the Cubs finally start TEAM renovations—that's the question!	@lamTimAnderson After some brilliant drunk decides an improvement means arson, and then follows through.



#### bears

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This is probably the expression Bears quarterback Josh McCown will make during his Hall of Fame acceptance speech in 2027. BRIAN CASSELLATERBUNE

## Guess who's going to the Hall of Fame?



Scott Bolohan • redeyesports@ tribune.com • @scottbolohan CANTON, OHIO, 2027

I was telling everyone I would just get up here and say thanks, but there are too many people to mention.

First, thank you to Arizona, Detroit, Oakland, Miami, Carolina, Hartford and San Francisco for not believing in me. Without you being so

incredibly stupid, I never would have ended up in the greatest city in the world.

Thank you to that one quarterback, Jay Butler or whatever, for always getting hurt. Without you, I would never be here.

Thanks to Alshon Jeffery. You are my Pippen. Even I didn't think it was possible to catch 100 touchdowns in a year. You always proved me wrong.

Speaking of Michael Jordan, you know what they say, the first six championships are the hardest, right, Michael? Oh yeah, you never got to seven. Suck it, M.J.

And thanks to Brian Urlacher for coming out of retirement during that crazy first Super Bowl in 2014. You were the missing piece. A big thank you to Marc Trestman. When I found out we hired you, I was skeptical. Little did I know you would end up as unquestionably the greatest coach in football history. It was a nice touch that the NFL made the Packers rename their field Trestman Field because you were so much better than that other guy.

Thanks to the Pro Football Hall of Fame for charging \$10,000 for seats to my induction, I guess.

Thanks to Tom Brady, Peyton Manning and Drew Brees for being worse than I was. If you weren't, I couldn't have won so many Super Bowls. And my apologies to Marshall Manning. It must really suck to be the quarterback following in my footsteps.

Thanks to all the Bears fans. Without your calls to sports talk shows, tweets and incoherent Facebook posts, the Bears may never have stuck with me. I am incredibly proud to be your mayor.

I'll see you on Monday for the ceremony to add a 3,000-foot spire on top of the Willis Tower to make it the tallest building in the world again.

One day you might look up and see me playing at 60. Don't laugh. Impossible is just a mindset.

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SCOTT BOLOHAN IS A REDEYE SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR.

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#### WHO'S TOP DOG?

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Records after Week 14: Whizzer is 44-25, Callie is 39-30



#### **WEEK 15 PICKS**

#### CALLIE

Bears Lions Cowboys Eagles Rams

#### GAME

Bears at Cleveland Baltimore at Detroit Green Bay at Dallas Philadelphia at Minnesota New Orleans at St. Louis

#### WHIZZER

Bears Lions Cowboys Vikings Saints

#### Throwing their votes away?

Derrick Rose was ruled out for the season after undergoing a second



major knee surgery, but that hasn't stopped fans from showing him love at the NBA All-Star ballot box. Rose ranks third among Eastern Conference backcourt players with 272,410 votes in first returns released Thursday, trailing only Miami's Dwyane Wade and Cleveland's Kyrle Irving.

#### THE FINISH LINE

» NFL: San Diego at Denver, late. » U.S. soccer coach Jurgen Klinsmann gets four-year extension.

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#### 'Punk Singer' subject Kathleen Hanna still a fighter after decades

By Matt Pais | REDEYE

The scene: New York deli counter. A woman is berating the employees, calling them idiots and telling them both they and the food are disgusting. Kathleen Hanna, long a powerful voice for human decency as frontwoman for '90s punk band Bikini Kill, is there. And she can't stand by in silence.

"I actually got up in this woman's face and called her some really bad names," Hanna, now the singer of The Julie Ruin, says of the recent incident.

"It was partially because the people working behind the counter maybe couldn't say, 'Hey, I think you're a real jerk' because they could lose their jobs. But I wasn't working

and I had the ability to say that, and if I worked there I would want to see somebody walk up and tell that person what an [bleep] hole they were. And I did; I told her she was an [bleep]hole.

"And some other choice words which I won't repeat."

That social action won't be surprising to anyone who sees "The Punk Singer," which charts the life and career of the now 45-year-old Hanna. The documentary, which opens Friday, focuses on not just Hanna's bands Bikini Kill and Le Tigre, but her role in the Riot Grrrl movement, her marriage to the Beastie Boys' Adam Horovitz and her friendship with Kurt Cobain. In case you didn't know: Hanna inspired "Smells Like Teen Spirit" by spray-painting "Kurt smells like teen spirit" on a wall.

Listen to audio and read more from this interview at **redeyechicago.com**.

#### "The Punk Singer" deals with some things that happened 20 years ago, yet a lot of the women's issues are still very prevalent and the music industry is not better. How should I feel about that?

I think you should be pissed, and you should start a petition on Change.org. No, you should go out in the street and scream! I don't know. I mean, I feel totally crazy. I feel the same way I did in the '90s. I'm like, "Really, you're challenging abortion again? What other amendments are we going to just go after?" It's absolutely insane. I hear these young girls who are in bands talking about the sexism and the racism that they're experiencing and I'm just, like, really annoyed, but at the same time I go to shows and there actually is female participation. There's way more women in bands; there's way more women in audiences. When we first started playing, there'd be like three

women, maybe five women at a show. And that's something positive that's really changed.

#### On the overall spectrum of how far there is to go, have we covered a lot of the ground?

I think that it's always one step forward and [two steps] back. History really is not linear. It goes through waves, especially with feminism, where people are really interested in it again, and I think now is one of those times. I mean, Miley Cyrus just came out saying, "I'm one of the biggest feminists in the world." When does it happen when a young pop star does that? Whether you love her or you hate her, it's pretty interesting that she's using that word and that's such a mainstream context. ... I've always thought that there's just as many different kinds of feminism as there are people in the world. So whatever. If [Miley Cyrus] thinks she's a feminist, she's a feminist.

# Limited assessment, unbridled



FAST PAISED

#### Matt

'We're Bikini Kill, and we want a revolution."That's how singer Kathleen Hanna opens one of her performances witnessed in the documentary "The Punk Singer.\* But unlike the empty words of so many other so-called activist musicians. Hanna put her money where her mouth is.

As captured by director Sini Anderson through archival and new interview footage, the now-45-year-old frontwoman co-founded the influential Riot Grrrl movement and counteracted an increasingly violent, male-driven music scene that left no place for women. Does "The Punk Singer" tell a balanced story? No, this is a movie about Hanna's greatness. That includes irresistible anecdotes like Kurt Cobain being the only one who helped Hanna with her crackhead, stalker boyfriend, and Hanna spray-painting "Kurt smells like teen spirit" on a wall-unin-

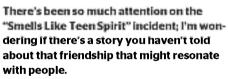
tentionally influencing the band credited with launching alternative music.

Still, if you're going to mention Courtney Love punching Hanna in the face for no identifiable reason, you should at least make an effort to get Love's side of the story. Anderson doesn't, and she populates her film entirely with folks like Carrie Brownstein and Corin Tucker (of Sleater-Kinney), Joan Jett and Beastie Boy/Hanna's husband Adam Horovitz, who all praise Hanna's artistic voice and power in serving as a voice for the feminist movement.

The

The rampant misogyny in music, music industry coverage and politics obviously makes "The Punk Singer" relevant today, though it would have been nice if the film recognized those current issues head-on. Instead, there's a simple charting of Hanna's musical career and the misdiagnosed illness, eventually identified as Lyme Disease, that nearly took her off stage permanently.

If nothing else, it shows that sometimes health problems are the only thing that can silence a voice demanding to be heard.



I guess the thing that was really interesting to me was that there was a time in Olympia, Wash., that things felt very electric, and Nirvana was very much a part of that. We were there when Dave [Grohl] first showed up and became the new drummer and was sleeping on Kurt's couch. Kurt was a hard nut to crack. He could be really quiet, and he got pissed at me a couple times.

#### **About what?**

I don't want to say because I feel like it would be disrespectful to him to talk about the argument.

The movie shows the comments that Adam made at the MTV Video Music Awards about sexual assault at Woodstock '99. I'm wondering if you think he would have made those comments if not for your influence.

Oh, absolutely not. [Laughs.] I was like, "You are lucky you get to make this speech." You're probably going to get this award, so you should say something." He totally agreed with me. He was angry about it; it wasn't false. But it was my idea that he say something. He did.

But there was another time that a writer called his band out on something homophobic they had done when they were much younger, and he took out a piece of paper and wrote a letter to the magazine and apologized for being homophobic when he was younger and apologized to the gay community. And that was him. So we are a team.



## Stuffed and squeezable

FAST PAISED Matt Pais

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At some point in "Saving Mr. Banks." which is inspired by the true story of Walt Disney (Tom Hanks) convincing author P.L. Travers (Emma Thompson) to license

the film version of "Mary Poppins," you may want to shout, "They said one spoonful of sugar, not two!"

And, yes, it will help if you say that with the accent of an old British lady.

A double dose of sweetness probably can be expected when the Walt Disney company makes a movie about the Walt Disney company making a movie. Did Travers really cuddle up to a big Mickey stuffed animal in a departure from her otherwise salty exterior? I don't know. Was Walt Disney a squeaky-clean saint who had all the charm of Tom Hanks and, in this case, merely wanted to make a Mary Poppins movie to honor a promise to his daughters? Highly questionable.

Yet it's impossible to deny the broad lik-



Saving Mr. Banks

ability of "Saving Mr. Banks," which gets a lot of mileage from Thompson's full commitment to Travers' testiness. In constant bickering with the folks tackling the film's script and music (Bradley Whitford, Jason Schwartzman, B.J. Novak), Travers personifies stubbornness, and that's putting it nicely. She doesn't want songs, animated penguins or the color red in the movie. Mr. Banks shouldn't have a mustache, no matter what Walt Disney requests. Forget about making up words—in response to "Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious" she bellows, "What on Earth are you talking about?"

Directed by John Lee Hancock ("The Blind Side") and co-written by one of the writers of the "Fifty Shades of Grey" film (which probably will feature far fewer stuffed animals), "Saving Mr. Banks" alternates between the Poppins business in



1961 and Travers' upbringing in Australia, where she adores her alcoholic father (Colin Farrell). The film means to show Travers' personal connection to her writing and how a happy child became an adult crank, and there's no doubting the story's effective document of the very Disney-like reclaiming of innocence.

Still, during the somewhat ponderous flashback sequences, it's hard not to think,

"Get back to the funny business of moviemaking!" And while "Saving Mr. Banks" would have to plead guilty to endorsing the magic of Disneyland (which Travers calls a "dollar-printing machine") and the splendor of its "Mary Poppins" film, it's innocent of offering only self-promotion. That's an important thing to note about a woman whose father taught her about the evils of the almighty dollar.

ow times change daily & or: The Dark World (PG-13) & 10:50, 1:30, 4:10, 7:30, 10:25

■Gravity 3D (PG-13) 11:40, 2:00 ■The Hunger Games: Catching Fire (PG-13) D 11:00, 2:30, 6:00, 7:00,

9:30, 10:30 ■Out of the Furnace (R) ★ Ð (Closed caption) 11:20, 1:40, 4:25, 7:20,

■The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (PG-13) ★ D 10:30, 1:10, 3:10

4:45, 8:20, 10:20 ■The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug 3D (PG-13) ★ 11:30, 2:10,

5:45, 6:45, 9:20
■Delivery Man (PG-13) D 4:20
■The Best Man Holiday (R) D 7:10, 10:00
■Tyler Perry's A Madea Christmas (PG-13) ★ D 10:40, 12:20, 2:50,

5:25, 8:00, 10:35 ■AMC Independent Blue Jasmine (PG-13) Ð (Closed caption) 11:10,

LANDMARK CENTURY CENTRE CINEMA (LANDMARK)

LANUMARK CENT UNT CENTREMIA (LANDIM)
2287 North Clark St., Chicago
(773) 509-4949

3The Last Days on Mars (R) 1:30, 4:25, 9:55

220 Feet From Stardom (PG-13) (7:50, 4:40, 7:10, 9:35)

The Book Thief (PG-13) (Closed caption) 1:50, 4:40, 7:10, 9:35

The Book Thief (PG-13) (Closed caption) 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:55

Nebraska (R) (Closed caption) 1:15, 4:45, 7:15, 10:00

Dallas Buyers Club (R) (Closed caption) 1:15, 4:05, 7:20, 9:55

12 Years a Stave (R) (Closed caption) 1:15, 4:05, 7:20, 9:55

Blue Is the Warmest Color (NC-17) 1:00, 4:50, 8:30

600 N. MICHIGAN (AMC) 600 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago

C. Handicapped Access Digital Sound Dolby Stereo ★ No Passes Hearing - Impaired

neral audience PG-Parental quiden sticted, under 17 requires accompanying

PG-15 - Parents strongly dautioned, Some multipproperties for children under 13

■The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (PG-13) ★ £ 11:15, 3:00.

■The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug 3D (PG-13) ★ 12:15, 4:00,

■Oldhov (B) £ 1:50

2500 ii. Western Ave. (\$00) 326-3264 #1642 ■The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug: An IMAX 3D Experience (\$C-313 \* (Closed caption) 11:00, 3:00, 7:00, 10:45 ■The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug 3D (\$C-13) \* (Closed cap-

tion) 1145, 345, 745, 1130

The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug 3D (FG-13) \* (Closed caption) 1145, 345, 745, 1130

The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug 3D (FG-13) \* (Closed caption) 1000, 115, 215, 515, 615, 915, 1015, 100

The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (FG-13) \* (Closed caption) 1290, 449, 90, 1915

12:30, 4:30, 8:30, 12:15 Tyler Perry's A Madea Christmas (PG-13) (Closed caption) 11:10,

■Delivery Man (PG-13) (Closed caption) 12:50, 9:10 ■Thor: The Dark World (PG-13) (Closed caption) 11:15, 2:05, 4:45

7:25, 10:05, 12:55 ■Ender's Game (PG-13) (Closed caption) 10:05, 3:35, 6:25 ■Gravity 3D (PG-13) ★ (Closed caption) 10:10, 12:35

#### DAVIS THEATRE (VALUE)

**CITY NORTH 14 (REGAL)** 

(773) 784-0893 ■The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (PG-13) ★ 3:15, 6:30, 9:45 ■Out of the Furnace (R) ★ 5:00, 7:30, 10:10 ■Trozen (PG) 4:40, 7:00, 9:20 ■The Hunger Games: Catching Fire (PG-13) 4:00, 7:00, 10:00

#### FORD CITY 14 (AMC)

■ Frozen (PG) D 10:50, 1:25, 2:05, 3:55, 6:25, 7:15
■Thor: The Dark World (PG-13) D 12:45, 3:50, 6:55, 9:55
■The Hunger Games: Catching Fire (PG-13) D 11:00, 12:10, 2:20,

■Out of the Furnace (R) ★ D 10:55, 1:40, 4:20, 7:05, 10:00

■The Best Man Holiday (R) D 10:45, 1:35, 2:30, 4:30, 7:20, 10:10
■Tyler Perry's A Madea Christmas (PG-13) ★ D 10:45, 11:30, 12:00,

1:30, 2:15, 4:15, 4:45, 5:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 9:00, 9:45, 10:15 ■Black Nativity (PG) Ð 11:20, 4:25, 7:10, 9:35

#### GENE SISKEL FILM CENTER

164 State Street (312) 846-2800

Go for Sisters (NR) 7:45

Is the Man Who Is Tall Happy? An Animated Conversation With

#### LOGAN THEATRE

2646 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago (773) 252-0628

Oldboy (R) 2:40, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00

■Gravity (PG-13) 2:20, 4:20, 8:15

■Kill Your Darlings (R) 6:10, 10:10 ■12 Years a Slave (R) 2:00, 4:35, 7:10, 9:45 ■Thor: The Dark World (PG-13) 2:00, 4:05, 6:15, 8:25

#### MUSIC BOX

3733 N. Southport, Chicago (773) 871-6604

The Punk Singer (NR) 5:15, 7:15, 9:15 ■It's a Wonderful Life (PG) 6:40

THE PATIO THEATER

#### **RIVER EAST 21 (AMC)**

322 E. Illinois Street, Chicago 888-AMC-4FUN

888-AMC-4FUN
Show times change daily
■Frozen (PG) ₱ 9:50, 12:45, 2:45, 9:25
■Thor: The Dark World (PG-13) ₱ 10:15, 1:10, 4:10, 7:05, 10:10

■Gravity 3D (PG-13) 9:40, 5:50, 8:20, 10:50
■The Hunger Games: Catching Fire (PG-13) D 11:00, 12:55, 2:40, 4:05, 6:20, 7:30, 10:00, 11:00
■Out of the Furnace (R) ★ D (Closed caption) 10:30, 1:35, 4:30, 7:30,

10:35
■Frozen 3D (PG) 3:45, 6:35
■AMC Independent All Is Lost (PG-13) D 11:20
■The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (PG-13) D 11:30, 1:30, 3:10, 3:30, 6:45, 7:15, 8:45, 10:20, 11:00
■The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug 3D (PG-13) ★ 9:30, 1:05, 4:40 of 456.

4:40, 8:15, 11:50 ■The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug 3D (PG-13) 10:00, 11:00, 2:30,

5:10, 6:05, 9:50 ■Saving Mr. Banks (PG-13) Ð 10:00, 10:45, 12:00, 1:00, 1:45, 3:00, 4:00, 4:50, 6:00, 7:00, 8:00, 9:15, 9:45, 10:15, 11:15 ■Delivery Man (PG-13) Ð 5:15, 7:10

■The Best Man Holiday (B) £ 12:30 AMC Independent 20 Feet From Stardom (PG-13) \* £ 2:00

■Tyler Perry's A Madea Christmas (PG-13) ₱ 9:45, 11:45, 12:40, 2:15 ■ 3:30, 5:00, 6:15, 7:45, 9:00, 10:30, 11:45
■AMC Independent The Book Thief (PG-13) D 12:20, 3:20, 6:30, 9:35

■AMC Independent Pallas Buyers Club (R) D 11:05, 2:05, 7:30, 9:30
■AMC Independent Dallas Buyers Club (R) D 11:05, 2:05, 7:45
■AMC Independent Nebraska (R) D 11:10, 2:10, 5:00, 7:50, 10:45
■AMC Independent Philomena (PG-13) 10:00, 11:15, 1:50, 4:35, 7:15,

#### SHOWPLACE VILLAGE CROSSING (AMC)

STOWTEACE VILLAGE UNDSTING (AMU)
7000 Carpeter Rd, Chicago
(800) 326-3264 #2309
■Frozen (PG) B 10:10, 11:10, 1:50, 3:30, 4:30, 7:10, 9:50
■Thor: The Dark World (PG-13) B 10:20, 1:20, 4:20, 7:20, 10:20
■The Hunger Games: Catching Fire (PG-13) B 10:00, 11:00, 12:00, 10:00
■Out of the Furnace (R) B (Closed caption) 9:30, 1:50, 4:50, 7:50, 10:50

■The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (PG-13) £ 10:30, 11:30, 1:30

2:00, 3:00, 5:30, 6:30, 8:30, 9:00, 10:00 ■The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug 3D (PG-13) ★ 9:30, 1:00.

■The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug 3D (PG-13) 10:00, 5:00, 12:00

■The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug: An IMAX 3D Experience
"Fine Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug: An IMAX 3D Experience
(PG-13) ★ 12:15, 3:45, 7:15, 10:45
■Delivery Man (PG-13) D 2:30, 8:10
■The Best Man Holiday (R) D 10:05
■Tyler Perry's A Madea Christmas (PG-13) D 10:15, 11:15, 12:15, 1:15, 3:15, 4:15, 6:15, 7:15, 8:15, 9:15, 10:15, 11:15
■AMC Independent The Book Thief (PG-13) D 9:45, 12:45, 3:45, 6:45, 9:55

9:55 ■AMC Independent **Dallas Buyers Club** (R) Ð 11:40, 5:10, 11:00 ■AMC Independent **Nebraska** (R) Ð 10:45, 1:45, 4:45, 7:45, 10:40 ■AMC Independent **Philomena** (PG-13) 9:35, 2:30, 5:05, 7:40, 10:10 ■**Homefront** (R) Ð 12:45, 3:15, 5:45, 8:45, 10:50

#### **WEBSTER PLACE 11 (REGAL)**

■Out of the Furnace (R) (Closed caption) 11:10, 2:00, 4:50, 7:40, 10:40
■Frozen (PG) (Closed caption) 11:05, 1:50, 4:30, 7:15
■Frozen (PG) (Closed caption) 9:50
■The Hunger Games: Gatching Fire (PG-13) (Closed caption) 11:20, 12:00, 2:40, 3:40, 6:00, 7:10, 9:30, 10:30
■Delivery Man (PG-13) (Closed caption) 2:45, 5:15, 7:55
■About Time (R) (Closed caption) 10:50, 1:40, 4:45, 7:45, 10:35
■Captain Phillips (PG-13) (Closed caption) 11:40, 10:25
■Gravity 3D (PG-13) ★ (Closed caption) 2:50, 5:15, 7:35, 10:10
■Gravity (PG-13) (Closed caption) 12:20

**SHOWPLACE GALEWOOD 14 (AMC)** 

Frozen (PG) £ 10:30, 11:30, 12:30, 2:15, 3:15, 4:00, 5:00, 6:45,

7.43, 10:25 ■Thor: The Dark World (PG-13) ₱ 10:10, 1:10, 4:10, 7:10, 10:10 ■The Hunger Games: Catching Fire (PG-13) ₱ 12:35, 3:50,

■Out of the Furnace (R) ★ D (Closed caption) 11:15, 2:00,

■Frozen 3D (PG) 1:15
■The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (PG-13) ★ Ð 11:00,

1:30, 2:30, 6:00, 8:30, 9:30 ■The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug 3D (PG-13) ★ 10:00,

■ The Hoofit: The Desolation of Smallg 3D (PG-13) \* 10:00, 12:200, 3:30, 5:00, 7:00, 10:30 
■ Delivery Man (PG-13) B 5:55 
■ The Best Man Holiday (R) D 10:05, 1:05, 4:05, 7:05, 9:25, 10:05 
■ Tyler Perry's A Madea Christmas (PG-13) D 10:00, 11:30, 12:30, 2:00, 3:00, 4:30, 5:30, 7:00, 8:00, 8:30, 9:30, 10:30, 11:00 
■ Black Nativity (PG) D 11:45, 2:15, 4:40, 7:15, 9:40 
■ Homefront (R) D 11:40, 2:10, 4:50, 7:20, 10:00

#### SHOWPLACE CICERO 14 (AMC)

4779 W. Cerrnak., Cicero (800) 326-3264 #1644

Trozen (Fg. D 10:00, 11:15, 1:00, 2:00, 4:45, 7:30, 10:15 Thor: The Dark World (PG-13) D 10:20, 1:20, 4:20, 7:20, 10:20 The Hunger Games: Catching Fire (PG-13) D 10:00, 12:50, 3:40, 4:10, 7:40, 10:50

3:40, 4:10, 7:40, 10:50 ■Out of the Furnace (R) Đ (Closed caption) 10:50, 1:50, 4:50, 7:50, 10:40 **Frozen 3D** (PG) 3:15

■The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (PG-13) £ 11:40, 3:30.

7:00, 7:15, 10:30 The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug 3D (PG-13) 12:45,

4:15, 7:45, 11:15

■Delivery Man (PG-13) Ð 10:40, 1:40, 4:35, 7:30, 10:05

■The Best Man Holiday (R) Ð 10:00, 12:50, 7:10, 10:10

■MMC Independent Narco Cultura (R) Ð 8:20, 10:50

■Tyler Perry's A Madea Christmas (PG-13) Ð 10:15, 11:00, 1:45, 1:00, 1:45, 2:30, 3:45, 4:30, 5:15, 6:30, 7:15, 8:00, 9:15,

■AMC Independent **Hours** (PG-13) € 10:20, 1:30, 4:00, 6:50, 9:30 ■Black Nativity (PG) Đ 10:30, 3:35, 5:50 ■Homefront (R) Đ 10:05, 12:35, 6:00, 8:30, 11:00

SHOWPLACE ICON AT ROOSEVELT COLLECTION
Clark & Boosevelt, South Loop, Chicago

■ The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (PG-13) ★ ✓ (Closed caption) 12.9, 210, 250, 10.810

■ The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug 3D (PG-13) ★ ✓ (Closed caption) 11.29, 210, 7.50, 10.45

■ The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (PG-13) ★ ✓ (Closed caption) 11.9, 340, 7.30, 11.15

■ The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (PG-13) ★ ✓ (Closed and the Company of the Com

4:50, 7:40, 10:30

The Hunger Games: Catching Fire (PG-13) (Closed caption)

7.20, 10-20

\*\*Black Nativity (PG) (Closed caption) 10-40

\*\*Black Nativity (PG) (Closed caption) 10-40

\*\*Black Nativity (PG) (Closed caption) 10-10, 12-50, 3-50, 6-40

\*\*Black Nativity (PG) (Closed caption) 10-10, 10-20, 1-50, 3-50, 6-40

\*\*The Hobbit: The Desolation of US many (PG-13) ★ / (Closed caption) /// Premium 27+ 11-50, 3-40, 7-30, 11-15

\*\*Tyler Perry's A Madea Christmas (PG-13) ★ (Closed caption) /// Premium 27+ 12-30, 3-20, 6-10, 9-00, 11-40

AK PARK

OK PARK

LAKE CINEMAS (L'ASSIC)

(1622 Late Streit, Dat Park

(1630) 444-FLM #561

Frozen (FG) (Glosed caption) 12-00, 2-20, 4-40, 7-00, 9-20

The Hunger Games: Catching Fire (FG-13) (closed caption)

12-00, 3-50, 650, 9-50 (R) (Closed caption) 1-30, 4-55, 6-45, 9-20

The Date of the Line Besolation of Smaug (FG-13) (closed caption)

1000, 4-15, 7-30, 10-48

tion) 1:00, 4:15, 7:30, 10:45 ■Nebraska (R) (Closed caption) 1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:40 ■Philomena (PG-13) (Closed caption) 12:50, 3:00, 5:10, 7:20,

9:30 **The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug 3D** (PG-13) (Closed **caption**) 12:00, 3:15, 6:30, 9:45

CENTURY 12/CINEARTS 6 (CENTURY) 1715 Magle Avg. Evanston (847) 492-0123 Blue Jasmine (PG-13) D (Closed caption) 12-45, 6-45 Gravity 30 (PG-13) (Closed caption) 1735, 2-10, 4-30, 7-05 The Best Man Hollday (1) Closed caption) 3-45, 9-20 ■Oldboy (R) Ð (Closed caption) 11:30 ■Out of the Furnace (R) Ð (Closed caption) 11:10, 2:05, 5:00,

■12 Years a Slave (R) € (Closed caption) 12:30, 3:50, 7:10.

10:20 ■Dallas Buvers Club (R) € (Closed caption) 11:05, 2:00, 4:55. 7:50, 10:45 **Thor: The Dark World** (PG-13) Đ (Closed caption) 11:05, 1:50

4:50, 7:35, 10:25 ■The Book Thief (PG-13) € (Closed caption) 12:20, 3:25. 6:30, 9:35 ■The Hunger Games: Catching Fire (PG-13) Đ (Closed caption) 11:00, 72:40, 220, 4:00, 5:40, 7:20, 9:00, 10:40

\*\*Mebraska (R) D (Glosed caption) 11:00, 14:5, 4:35, 7:25, 10:1

\*\*Homefront (R) D (Closed caption) 9:30

\*\*The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (PG-13) D (Closed caption) 11:05, 12:35, 4:10, 6:15, 7:45

\*\*The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug 3D (PG-13) (Closed caption) 11:05, 12:35, 4:10, 6:15, 7:45

■ The Hobbit: The Desolation of Shaug 3D (PG-13) (Closed Caption) 11:53, 225, 700, 10:35 of Smaug 3D (PG-13) (Closed Caption) 120, 245, 244, 4455, 540, 830, 8:15, 8:50 

#Tyler Perry & Madea Christmas (PG-13) b (Closed caption) 1:55, 2:30, 5:05, 7:40, 10:30 

#Frozen (PG) b (Closed caption) 1:15, 1:55, 4:40, 7:30 

#Frozen (PG-13) b (Closed caption) 1:145, 1:55, 4:4

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#### **Far trek into darkness**

FAST PAISED Matt

Pais

Going into the roughly 153-minute "The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug," my questions were, "Is it painfully slow like 'The Hobbit: An Unex-

pected Journey'?" and "Wasn't Smaug already, uh, desolate?" I mean, Smaug sounds like a mountain, and I'm sure I'm not the only one who enjoyed Peter Jackson's adaptation of J.R.R. Tolkien's "Lord of the Rings" series but can't keep track of every fantasy location from Bree to Hogwarts. (Just kidding, Potter fans, just kidding.)

Actually, you may or may not remember (I obviously didn't), Smaug is a humongous, evil dragon voiced by Benedict Cumberbatch and awoken in this prequel sequel, which, following its snoozy predecessor, also feels like rousing a sleeping dragon. This time Jackson actually delivers a watchable movie—not just an elongated (and, if you saw "Journey" in the unfortunate 48-frames-per-second technology, very weird-looking) return to terrain that's already taken up a half-day of screen time. At the start of "Smaug," Gandalf (Ian McKellen), who still runs quite well for a huge old wizard carrying a large stick, encourages dwarf Thorin Oakenshield (Richard Armitage), the heir to the throne of Durin-stay with me here—to "Take back your homeland!" When Gandalf bellows, you oblige.

A year later, Thorin, Gandalf, several



The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug PG-13

other bearded dwarves and prime burglar and lovable hobbit Bilbo Baggins (Martin Freeman) are continuing the journey begun in "Journey." And this time, the story really moves. The dwarves' rocky relationship with the elves yields an excellent escape in barrels and a well-handled flirtation between dwarf Kili (Aidan Turner) and elf Tauriel (Evangeline Lilly). Snarling, hideous orcs call her "She-elf." If they were smarter, they'd just say "Shelf."

Maybe it's because being wrapped in a web by a giant spider, as happens to Bilbo and company, is high on my list of Things I Don't Want to Happen to Me Ever, but "Smaug" consistently and surprisingly thrills. It is long, and it's easy to zone out as characters say things like, "The power in that fortress will only grow stronger." But this time, big doesn't mean bloated. A chase sequence down a river practically turns a dwarf into a missile, and the pep in the numerous conflicts makes the elegance of precisely shot arrows and impeccably detailed locations regain their sense of grandeur. Ditto for the bravery of underdogs who stare danger in the face, even if it requires them to balance on their tiptoes.

Wake up, "Hobbit" haters: It's time to believe again.









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## Honor amid unpleasantness



It's worth recognizing that "Hours" was scheduled for release Friday well before the shocking death of its star, Paul Walker, on Nov. 30. The film isn't cashing

in on tragedy; it's merely an example of a terrible coincidence.

The film's content is harder to defend. Set against Hurricane Katrina in 2005 New Orleans, "Hours" isn't based on a true story and has a whiff of a screenwriter's "What if?" After rushing his pregnant wife, Abigail (Genesis Rodriguez), to the hospital, Nolan (Walker) soon learns that Abigail has died but their five weeks-premature daughter has lived. The timing couldn't be worse: With the storm intensifying and the hospital evacuating, Nolan becomes stranded as his



baby, who needs to be on a ventilator for 48 hours, struggles to breathe. Every three minutes, Nolan must recharge the battery; he sets his watch timer to ensure he doesn't crank the lever a second too late.

In fact, "Seconds" would have been a more appropriate title, but perhaps that sounds too much like a movie about a buffet.

Considering the high percentage of African-Americans affected by Katrina, there's no excuse for writer-director Eric Heisserer (the writer of the remakes of "A Nightmare on Elm Street" and "The Thing") to have the only established black characters be a doctor who bails on Nolan and a thief scouting for drugs. What begins as a tight-but-contrived drama about a man fighting



through an impossible situation becomes dangerously close to an action-thriller without moral complications. The one difficult choice Nolan makes isn't presented as crossing any figurative lines, but only doing what he has to for his child.

And yet—and I promise to be judging the star's performance objectively, rather than in the wake of his passing—even when the movie and some ill-advised lighter moments let him down, Walker ("The Fast and the

Furious," "Varsity Blues") holds his own. In flashbacks showing the beginning and progression of Nolan and Abigail's relationship, he's charming but not overly weightless. In moments of despair, he emotes credibly.

So credit Walker, an actor without a ton of memorable performances under his belt but here asked to carry an entire film, for bringing "Hours" as far as it goes. We can only wonder about any further steps he might have taken.

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## And the Golden Globe goes to ... 'Frozen'?

#### By Matt Pais I REDEYE

Let's take a collective deep breath and begin with the good news from this morning's sufficiently ridiculous Golden Globes nominations.

- » Julia Louis-Dreyfus ("Enough Said") and Greta Gerwig ("Frances Ha") deservedly appear in the Best Actress (Musical or Comedy) category. See those movies, people; they're really good.
- » To no one's surprise, "12 Years a Slave" justly earns nominations in almost every category it could. Hoping Michael Fassbender wins Best Supporting Actor.
- » Great performances in unusual movies weren't ignored, meaning noms for Joaquin Phoenix ("Her") and Oscar Isaac ("Inside Llewyn Davis"). And Best Picture (Musical or Comedy) nods for both!
- » Despite being NC-17 and sexually explicit (which is appropriate for the story), France's brilliant "Blue is the Warmest Color" still earns a Best Foreign Language Film nomination. Relieved.



- » Paul Greengrass scores a Best Director nod for "Captain Phillips," a movie whose unbelievable suspense and crisp, nominated performances from Tom Hanks and Barkhad Abdi are a credit to its director.
- » No nominations for "Lee Daniels' The Butler," which is what's supposed to happen when a movie's lousy.

Now for the bad news. Hey, Hollywood Foreign Press: Can you please define the difference between comedy and drama for me? So "Philomena" and "Saving Mr. Banks" are dramas but "Before Midnight" and "Her" are comedies? Just because a movie is funny doesn't necessarily mean it's a comedy, and just because a film has an emotional component doesn't mean it's a drama. Also:

» The inclusion of critically dismissed box office flop "Rush" in the Best Picture (Drama) category and Daniel Bruhl for Best Supporting Actor must be a prank. That's the only rational explanation.

- » The voiceover-heavy, thematically simple "American Hustle" should not be nominated for Best Screenplay. Really.
- » Also: It's ironic for David O. Russell ("American Hustle") to earn a Best Director nod for a movie that apes Martin Scorsese, but Scorsese ("The Wolf of Wall Street") doesn't get one for actually being Scorsese and delivering a film that's more entertaining.
- » No one has seen "Labor Day" yet. (The Chicago Film Critics Association did not receive screeners of the movie, opening in 2014, BTW.) Was Kate Winslet nominated just because she's Kate Winslet?
- » On that note: Meryl Streep and Julia Roberts get in for "August: Osage County," but no screenplay nod for Chicagoan Tracy Letts, whose play won him a Pulitzer. Interesting.
- When Best Animated Feature includes "The Croods," "Despicable Me 2" and "Frozen," the category should be canceled.

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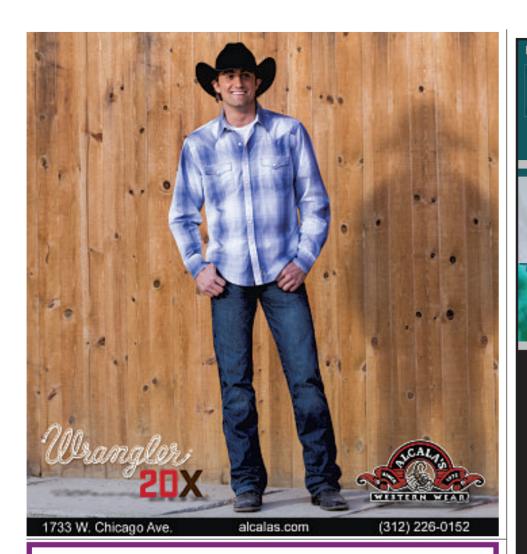
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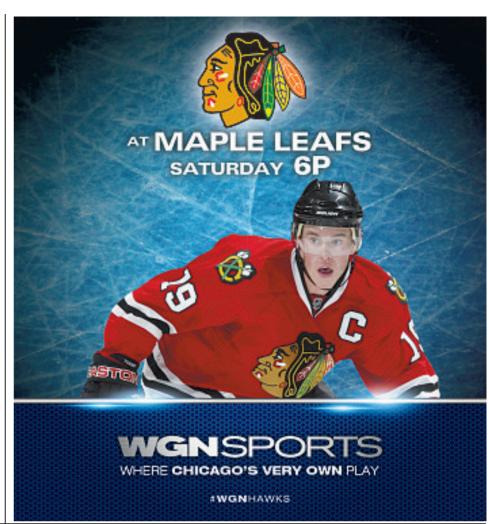
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## **Globes don't holla for Mandy Patinkin**

#### **By Curt Wagner IREDEYE**

The Golden Globes TV nominations always supply pleasant surprises and a few head-scratchers. The 2014 list announced Thursday morning is no different, with the Hollywood Foreign Press Association once again embracing new shows but also snubbing some past nominees and winners along the way.

Here's my take on the nominations, starting with the surprises and ending with the snubs. The 71st Golden Globe Awards, hosted by Tina Fey and Amy Poehler, will air at 7 p.m. Jan. 12 on NBC.  $\column{c}$  CWWAGNER@TRIBUNE.COM | @SHOWPATROL



#### 'Parks and Recreation'

Last year "Glee" and "Smash" were nominated instead of NBC's much better comedy. That error has been undone, plus Amy Poehler was nominated. Maybe next year the HFPA will recognize Nick Offerman.

#### **Corey Stoll**

"House of Cards" made its mark on the list with nominations for the series and for star Kevin Spacey. Stoll was great as Rep. Peter Russo and really earned his supporting nom. Not so pleased to see Rob Lowe in this category instead of Mandy Patinkin from "Homeland."

#### 'The Good Wife'

CBS' "The Good Wife" is having, by all accounts, its best year in five seasons, so it's nice to see it back in the best drama category.

#### **Tatiana Maslany**

Maslany played seven clones on BBC America's "Orphan Black," giving each character her own tics, accent, attitudes and personality. She was snubbed by the Emmys despite her amazing feat. This is the GG nom that makes me the happiest.



#### Taylor Schilling

Netflix's "Orange is the New Black" didn't get nominated as a series—probably because it competed in the



tougher drama category rather than in comedy. Nice to see Schilling score a nod.

## NAY!



#### **Jon Hamm**

Speaking of the "Mad Men" snub, its lead actor and a former nominee was completely overlooked this year. I am not a big fan of this show, but I can say Hamm is one reason to watch.

#### **Bellamy Young**

Kerry Washington deservedly earned a best actress nom for "Scandal," but the show's lightning rod has to be Young, whose performance as first lady Mellie Grant always has fans talking. It's too bad the HFPA lumps all into one supporting actress race.

#### 'Homeland'

The Showtime series won the past two years, as have a few of its actors. The honeymoon must be over. No noms for Claire Danes, Damian Lewis, Mandy Patinkin or the show. The biggest shocker on the list, along with the complete shutouts of "Game of Thrones," "Mad Men" and "Boardwalk Empire."

#### **Anna Gunn**

AMC's "Breaking Bad" earned nominations as a drama and for Bryan Cranston and Aaron Paul, but there was no love for Gunn, who was amazing as Walt's wife, Skyler.





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#### By Michael Nagrant | FOR REDEVE

Push. I've heard a lot of great chefs say it.

Push through the pain. Push forward. Push past your limits. The difference between the successful chef and your average line cook, or so it appears, is returning a force just a little harder than the force that comes at you, aka pushing.

"Push" is also what's tattooed on the right wrist of Jeff Mahin, the executive chef partner behind Stella Barra, a new pizzeria in Lincoln Park.

Mahin—who did time at
Nobu and The Fat Duck (once rated the best restaurant in the world), helped Laurent

Gras open L2O and became one of Lettuce Entertain You's youngest partners, all before age 30—embodies that tattoo.

Despite all his work, his accolades, the success of two Stella Barra restaurants in California and the launch of Do-Rite Donuts in the Loop, I never heard of the guy until I sat down to dinner Stella Barra (owned by Mahin and Lettuce Entertain You) a few weeks ago.

The crust So many pizza places treat their dough like Kanye West treats haters, which is to say, with a healthy dose of disdain and neglect. They freeze it. They add filler. They don't let it rise long enough.

Before he opened his first pizzeria, Mahin tested 30 differ-

ent recipes, settling on dough made from fresh-ground California wheat, filtered water and sea salt. He mixes these ingredients together and lets the dough rise for days. The dough is double-proofed, which means it rises for 24 hours and then is put in clear jars and left to rise again for 12 hours or more. The dough is then carefully removed from the cylinder and stretched by hand for each order. The center is punched down, but the edges are protected, never disturbed or prodded, so that the exterior rise is preserved. The result is a crackling, almost rustic sourdough-like center and a puffy, chewy rim. This is the best pizza crust I have had since I ate the pies at Nellcote made from house-milled double-zero flour. It might even be better.

Because Stella Barra first opened in Southern California, the land of diet fads, Mahin also offers each of his pizzas in a "thin sin" crust version. When my server asked if I wanted thin sin crust on any of my pizzas, I flashed him a look of disbelief, confusion and anger. I eat butter. I use sugar. I

do not diet. But my job is to judge the result and not the idea, so I relented and got one of my pies this way. I'm glad I did. The result is a crisp, almost baked tortilla-like crust that crackled with each bite. The closest I've had to thin sin crust might be a Chicago cracker-thin crust. But cracker crust is usually dry, whereas Mahin's thin sin had a slight pliability and moisture I haven't tasted anywhere else.

The toppings: I had my thin sin crust topped with golden shaved rounds of butternut squash, crunchy candied bits of bacon, slivers of fiery Calabrian chili, wisps of parmesan and pungent spicy florets of oregano (\$15.95). The sweetness of the squash and the occasional smiting bite of the chili was explosive. Fancy pizzas abound here, including one with gruyere and black truffle (\$15.95), but I won-

dered what happened when Mahin couldn't hide behind luxury ingredients, so I checked out the basic pepperoni pie (\$14.95). Topped with oozy knobs of mozzarella and wafers of

PIZZA REVIEW

Stella Barra

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crackling garlicky pepperoni, this pizza was perfect.

The sauce: While the cheese and meat were stellar, the real star was the chunky salsa-like tomato sauce, which had a tremendous mouthwatering savoriness rounded out by a sweet finishing note. If I

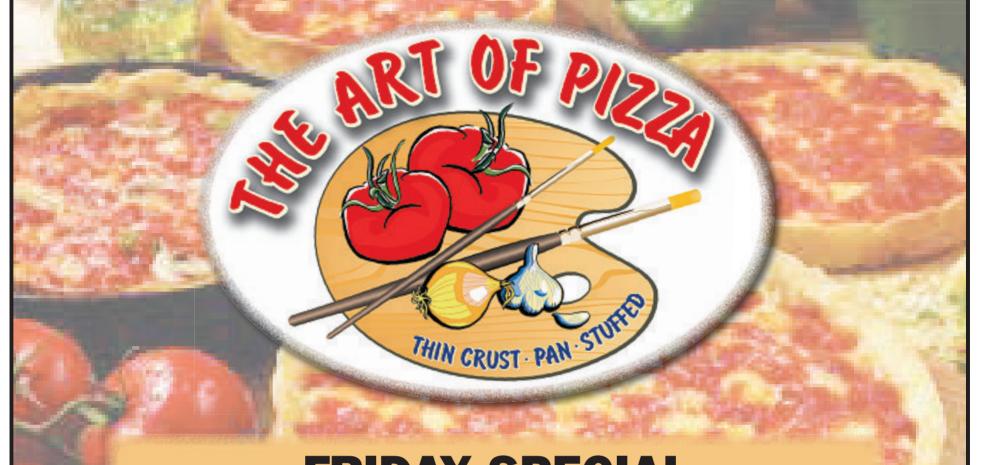
could, I'd carry a flask of the stuff with me for dipping breadsticks, or drinking straight, whenever I felt like it.

**The scene:** The dimly lit room—which features dark walls outfitted with industrial conduit and construction-site hazard light fixtures, big overstuffed booths and mixed styles of mid-century modern dining chairs—feels more like a cool lounge than a pizza parlor.

The bottom line: You may never have heard of Jeff Mahin, but after eating a few of the thoughtful, well-crafted tasty pizzas—some of the best in town—at this new Chicago outpost of Stella Barra, you will not forget his name

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## Who's the boss?

#### A suburban burger joint duplicates in Lakeview



I must admit that as much as I adore my name—The Great Burgerelli has a nice ring to it, yes?—there are times when it can feel a tad formal. At those times, my cohorts refer to me simply as "Burger Boss," or "Boss" for short. That considered, you can understand why I took interest in the recent opening of Burger Boss in Lakeview, a second location of the original in west suburban Elmwood Park run by brothers Nick and Anthony Gambino. Would these fine lads do my nickname justice?

The burger: Let it be known that I am seriof the Boss's beef is certainly better than the beef they serve at run-of-the-mill fast-food ous about quality. So serious, in fact, that I dream of one day building a burger lab to study in detail every patty I consume. Until side. Price-wise, the burgers start at \$4.09 then, I must rely on the kind assertions of strangers. Anthony Gambino told me the I recommend that one order at least two Burger Boss patties are made from "young patties. A great burger is only as good as its cows that fall in the top 8 percent of all angus beef-to-bun ratio; order a single and suddenly beef ... harvested on the Illinois/Iowa you'll find yourself on a brioche bun safari borders" that are grass fed and then grain looking for lost meat. finished to give the beef what he called The bun: I quite admire the pil-"superior flavor and marbling." I appreciate

the attention to detail, but worry that flavor lowy brioche bun baked by a has been rendered out of the thin patties by North Shore bakery (which bakery exactly, I may never overcooking them to well-done. The taste know, as the Gambinos claim it is a trade secret). I could lay my big Burgerelli noggin to sleep on the eggrich crumb. The Boss also offers a whole wheat and a pretzel option for an upcharge of 25 cents and 50 cents, respectedly.

The fries: Typically, I prefer a heftier fry cut-shoestrings are best left where they belong—but sweet potato fries are often soggy when cut thick. The Boss's (\$3) glisten with sea salt crystals, puff a sweet squash-like perfume and are exquisite, some of the best I have ever eaten. The regular french fries (\$2.10) were also well-salted and golden, with

establishments, but it was a bit on the dense for a single and \$4.89 for a two-patty option.

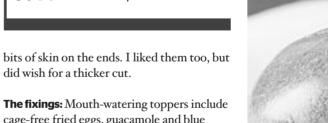
> cage-free fried eggs, guacamole and blue cheese (each 90 cents). There are also

> > some pre-set flavor combinations. I tried the Bleu Boss burger (I understand that is also what Jay Z and Beyonce call their baby daughter) featuring blue cheese, sauteed mushroom, golden caramelized grilled onion, lettuce and mayo (\$4.99 for a single). The assertive, stinky

cheese was nicely balanced by the mellow sweetness of the onion.

**Everything else:** I was quite moved by the service at Burger Boss. The very helpful cashier not only guided me through the ordering process, answered all my strange questions about beef provenance and, unbidden, brought a sample of the creamy, cinnamon-y pumpkin shake to my table, but she also graciously mopped up some root beer my dining companion clumsily spilled.







**Bottom line:** Service is quick and inviting. Given a choice between a stop at a chain burger joint and Burger Boss, the Boss reigns supreme. But, in the quick-service burger arena, the Boss patty isn't quite as well-griddled as that of Five Guys, or as flavorful as the specimens at M Burger. But, then again, those establishments do not have the great brioche bun or the great sweet potato fries of Burger Boss.

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#### combo created by owner Alex Hernandez. The vegetarian guinoa burger with mushrooms, shallots and gluten-free bread crumbs is miles richer than your typical meat-free burger.

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# Your rent sucks. Here's why.



YOUNG MONEY Megan

Crepeau

Thanks, Joint Center for Housing Studies of Harvard University report, for confirming what we all already felt: The rent really is too damn high.

The study, released Monday, found several actual economic reasons you keep dreading the first week of the

month. Pile them all on top of each other, and things seem bleak. Have a look.

We still haven't gotten over the foreclosure crisis. Millions of people lost their homes after the financial crash post-2008, and they didn't go right back and buy another house. Meanwhile, the study speculates that even those who didn't lose their homes were still affected. "The experience of the last few

years highlighted the many risks of homeownership, including the potential loss of wealth from falling home values, the high costs of relocating, and the financial and personal havoc caused by foreclosure." And so ...

- ... Fewer people are buying homes. "High rates of sustained unemployment" don't exactly put people in the mortgage mood, it seems. Even if they were, the "barriers to homeownership," as the study puts it, are high. Banks got gun-shy about lending money after the financial crisis, leading to a credit crunch that Fortune called the longest since people started keeping track. That means many banks started requiring bigger down payments and better credit scores. And so ...
- ... Everyone wants to rent. Demand is huge. How huge? The number of renting households grew twice as fast in the past few years as it has in recent decades. In 2009, the vacancy rate for professionally managed





apartments was 7.9 percent. So far this year, it's 4.9 percent. Think back to high school economics: When demand is high, suppliers-in this case, landlords-can raise prices. Which especially hurts when ...

... Incomes are lower overall. The median. renter income was 13 percent lower in 2012. than in 2000. Over those same years, rents rose 6 percent. That's right: Incomes got lower while rents got higher. So even if your rent didn't get more expensive, if your wages got smaller or didn't keep pace with the cost of living, it may as well have.

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# How to politely stop a serial texter



Anna Pulley • redeye@ • tribune.com Hi Anna,
I started seeing a girl a
few weeks ago and so
far, so good—except
for one thing: She
texts me all the time.
At first it was cute, but
now I find it's interrupting my flow and
work. I should also
say that I rarely text,
except to make plans
or in emergencies.
What's the etiquette

here? How do I tell her to calm down without coming off as a jerk? —Texting Neophyte

Dear Neo,

Calm down, Sandra! Take a Xanax and chillax with the texts! (Alliteration helps soothe manic texters, I've found).

Let's start with the obvious: Have you told her you're not into texting? Because you can totally do that. It's not rude. The next time you see your new lady friend, be clear about your preferences. "Hey Sandra [I don't know why I want her to be named Sandra]. You may have noticed I haven't responded to some of your texts. [Insert pause for her to shed a tear or two at your inconsiderateness] I wanted to let you know that I'm not ignoring you. I'm just not a big texter, except to make plans or in emergencies, even though that's weird. ["Your house burned down. Didn't you get my text?"] Let's grab a mulled wine at the Christkindlmarket and talk like two sentient beings without the impediment of a glowing blue screen, shall we?"

You can even say it "interrupts your flow and work." Most people understand that modern life involves distractions and will respect your wish for a few hours of emoji-free time. She will probably still be a little miffed because she's into you and wanted to convey textually that she was thinking about you.

You also don't have to respond to every text, or even keep your phone where you can see or hear it pinging. Most employers don't want you texting during work hours, so you can fall back on that as an excuse if need be, but if you're clear about your limited texting habits, hopefully she'll follow suit. Other excuses that may work:

- I've been watching the Chicago Gay Hockey Association performing Mariah Carey's "All I Want for Christmas Is You" for the past 96 hours and have no intention of stopping.
- I have a genetic disorder that causes me to time-travel unpredictably, like "The Time-Traveler's Wife." Being both from the future and the past makes it hard to text you back. Each time I try, it's like, ziiiip, now it's 1892 and I'm holding a piece of tree bark and Grover Cleveland is asking me to help trim his mustache.
- I'm not actually your boyfriend. I'm just a poofy coat hanging on the door of your closet that looks man-shaped when far away. Hence, I have no thumbs with which to communicate, let alone a language, phone, free will or the desire to validate how delicious your lunch looked in the pic you sent.

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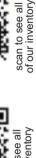
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### By Veronica Wilson | FOR REDEYE

Annual intentions of shopping locally and sustainably can easily turn into a last-minute scramble to a bigbox store.

However, tucked into a warehouse at 1740 W. Webster Ave. is a place where the trifecta of local, sustainable and affordable shopping exists happily year-round. It's home to a nonprofit called Rebuilding Exchange, where reclaimed building materials from the region are resold to become something beautiful.

Elise Zelechowski, executive director of Rebuilding Exchange, said that part of the goal is to change the way people look at old building materials.

"If you handle them in such a way that they're seen as resources and not waste, you can convert them into valuable economic assets and actually create a market," she said.

And the market is thriving. Created in 2008, the Exchange originally intended to demonstrate that organizations can be both environmentally

and economically friendly. So far, it has been wildly successful. It has diverted 10,000 tons of waste from landfills and served 16,000 customers this year with help from material and monetary donations.

As a result, the Exchange also is giving back through various outlets, including a job-training program that offers a second chance to ex-offenders transitioning out of the criminal justice system.

"From the very beginning we felt that in order to really grow this marketplace, we needed to have a trained workforce," Zelechowski said. "So very early on we felt that part of our core mission should be to provide those job training opportunities, primarily to ex-offenders."

The Exchange has trained more than 80 people through its program, which led to the creation of Rebuilding Exchange's own product line: RX Made. Blake Sloane, director of RX Made, said the idea started with trainees building simple furniture items, which they then decided to

sell in the warehouse.

"It was more popular than we ever could have hoped and it snowballed from there," Sloane said.

His small-yet-successful division now serves as the organization's creative branch, churning out both large furniture items such as tables and smaller pieces like cheese boards or earring holders. RX Made also takes custom orders—as long as the item is built with reclaimed materials and sustainability in mind.

"Everything we do is dictated by what we have on hand and what we want to encourage customers to purchase and reuse," he said. "We're trying to make the turning-trash-into-an-asset thing a little more glamorous."

For those overwhelmed by a potential project, the Exchange's Heather White also offers classes to educate the community on how to use their materials. Classes vary from basic one-day workshops to a four-week series in woodworking and DIY.

Over the next few Saturdays,



White is also running the Holiday Scraptacular, where kids and adults can make ornaments and wreaths out of scrap materials. The Exchange will host a holiday market Friday night, where RX Made products will be showcased alongside goods from other local vendors who use reclaimed products.

"This is a really immediate way to use your purchasing power to use reclaimed materials instead of new materials and therefore have a lot of immediate environmental impact," Zelechowski said.

### UPCOMING AT REBUILDING EXCHANGE

RX Holiday Market 6:30-9:30 p.m. Friday

### Holiday Scraptacular 11 a.m. 1 p.m. Saturday and Dec. 21

\$5 per ornament. \$15 per wreath Must be at least 8 years old

### Rebuilding Exchange workshops

Varying dates and times available: visit rebuildingexchange.org and eventbrite.com





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### **TODAY IN THE YEAR...**

1918: President Woodrow Wilson arrived in France, becoming the first chief executive to visit Europe while in office.

2000: Republican George W. Bush claimed the presidency 36 days after Election Day. 2003: Saddam Hussein was captured by U.S. forces while hiding in a hole under a farmhouse in Ad Dawr, Iraq, near his hometown of Tikrit.

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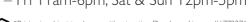


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### By Dana Moran

REDEYE

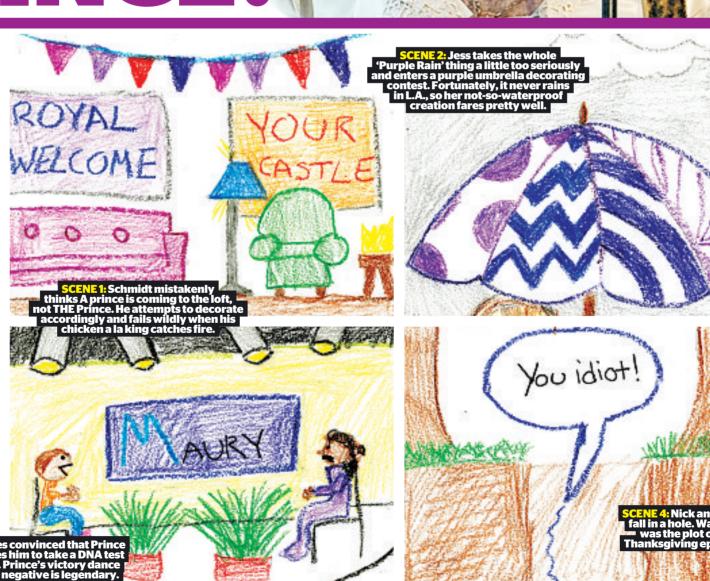
It's like all of Jess Day's twee dreams are coming true.

Eonline.com confirms that Prince will guest star on the post-Super Bowl episode of "New Girl." Apparently he's a huge fan of the show, and actually asked to appear. While we're coming to terms with the awesomeness of this news, we'd like to

we have a lot of sway in Hollywood.

offer the writers a few potential plots for this episode. Because, you know,

SCENES: Winston becomes convinced that Prince is his real father and forces him to take a DNA test on Maury Povich's show. Prince's victory dance when the results turn up negative is legendary.





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**THE QUOTE** God. there are so many parties and so much free stuff. But it's all lotion!"

-Gabourey Sidibe, to Vulture, on going to the Sundance Film Festival



Benealc

the magic dragon



Two of a kind Tina Fey and Amy Poehler obviously are in a class all of their own. But if they HAVE to be compared to other great duos, which would they pick? The Olsen twins, for one. "When we're next to each other we like to hug each other a lot, like we're in the womb. and Tina's thumbprint matches my pinkie, because that's what we were like in the womb," Poehler told Entertainment Weekly. Fey added that they also operate like Derek Jeter and A-Rod. Fewer alleged steroids though, ladies.

### **THE DIGIT**

Number of seasons of "Survivor" after the 2014-15 TV season, now that CBS has ordered two more seasons of the competition series. All these vears later. Jeff Probst

still survives.

### **MORE INSIDE Matt Pais and Curt** Wagner share their cheers and gripes from this year's **Golden Globes** nominations Page 28-31



### **Birthday treat**

Happy 24th, Taylor Swift! Not only did the country-pop darling celebrate her birthday a day early with a Golden Globe nomination for "Sweeter Than Fiction," the song she co-wrote for the movie "One Chance." she also had dinner with New Zealander Lorde ahead of her Melbourne concert, the Daily Mail reports. Jealousy on all counts.

### Down with the sickness

It's not hard to figure out how Olivia Wilde's pregnancy is going. "On way to LA. Getting up at 3:30 AM to announce Globes noms w @aziz



ansari and @zoesaldana. Can I wear my head gear? I genuinely might puke," the "Drinking Buddies" star tweeted Wednesday night. Fortunately, things didn't get gross during her gig Thursday, so we assume all is well.

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